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Nixon's stubborn aggressive position will take him nowhere

RICHARD Nixon is carrying on his double dealing, namely, protestations of peace and prosecution of the aggressive war in South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos.

At the United Nations forum as in the electoral campaign to win votes for the Republican Party, he has tried all he knows to sell the "major new initiative for peace" he had put forward in his October 7 speech, while at the same time painting a picture of "victory" in Viet Nam in an attempt to mislead American electors and world opinion.

The US president has sworn that his was not a hoax but an initiative to "widen the peace." Everywhere it has been poohpoohed as an "old tune" and Americans have branded it as nothing short of "maximal propaganda." And it was no accident that Cyrus Eaton, a great industrialist of the US, commented that the White House did not care about how to end the war, and that its sole concern was to pursue it (*Reuter*, October 28, 1970).

Everyone realizes that Nixon's so-called five-point initiative is essentially a smokescreen to conceal US design to carry on the war. It was a countermove against SVNR Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh's September 17 declaration at the Paris Conference and vote-catching trick for the November 3 elections. For this very reason, it was so artfully and hazily worded that the *Washington Post* (Oct. 8) suggested that what was outstanding in the US president's proposal was its vagueness: it might be new or old, true or untrue, promising or unpromising.

Anyway, to the Vietnamese people, to progressive people the world over, including Americans, the position held by Nixon as expressed in his October 7 statement is transparent enough. He is obstinately continuing the "Vietnamization" policy, prolonging the aggressive war, refusing to comply with the legitimate, fair and reasonable demands of the South Vietnamese, world and American peoples, that is, an end to the conflict, total and unconditional withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam before June 30, 1971, and removal of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, so that the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs without American interference.

The aggressive war and bellicose purport of Nixon's five-point proposal strongly clashed with the September 17 peace initiative of the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government. Contrary to the US president's ballyhoo, there is no "common basis" between the position of the aggressor and that of the anti-aggression fighter. The people and the PRG of South Viet Nam, just as progressive world opinion, have strongly condemned and flatly rejected Nixon's deceptive five points and are insisting that his government give a seriously response to the PRG offer. In order to eschew the blows of public opinion and with an eye to the November elections, Nixon and the propaganda machine of the White House clamoured that the situation in South Viet Nam had been evolving to the US advantage: casualties of the American forces dropped, the Saigon army was in the process of strengthening, the pacification program and the "Vietnamization" plan favourably progressing. The majority of the American people, it is said, are supporting their president, and if the "Viet Cong" do not negotiate with US delegates they will face more difficulties when dealing with Saigon representatives alone.

(*Continued page 3*)

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Prince Souphanouvong and President Nguyen Huu Tho at the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference

editorial

Khmers' struggle for independence, peace and neutrality will be victorious

THE Kingdom of Cambodia proclaimed its independence on November 9, 1953. This historical landmark was of the greatest significance for the Khmer people as it testified to the success of their indomitable struggle against the French colonialists' domination and also ushered in a new era, the era of independence, peace and neutrality in Cambodia.

From that glorious day onward the Khmer people made persistent and successful efforts to defend their national independence, build up a sovereign economy and develop their national culture. These achievements were closely associated with the clever leadership and judicious political line of Samdech, head of state Norodom Sihanouk, that of national independence, peace and neutrality for Cambodia, solidarity and friendship with the Vietnamese and Lao peoples in the resistance against US imperialist aggression. Through hard trials, the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk proved the only sound one for the development of Cambodia, the "land of peace and stability" which had been enjoying an ever-growing credit in the world. This line was not only consistent with the cherished aspirations and the legitimate interests of the Khmer people but also reflected the inevitable relations between the Khmer people and the Indochinese peoples in the struggle for their survival and development of their solidarity and mutual assistance against the common enemy—US aggressive imperialism.

(Continued page 5)

LETTER TO AN ACTIVIST OF TH

Editor's Note — The Saigon press circles have been credited with a commendable contribution to the mighty struggle of the masses. A number of journalists have reflected with their incisive pens the pressing needs of people from all walks of life and castigated those warlike acts which go counter to the people's rights and aspirations.

Recently the Saigon press has given much space to Saigonese opposition to the fire-eating antics of the Reverend McIntyre, the organizer of a "parade for victory" in the United States.

In many consecutive issues, from Sept. 22 to 28, 1970 Dan Chu Moi (New Democracy) printed in toto a letter from a group of young journalists to McIntyre some excerpts of which are given below:

Dear Mr McIntyre,

WE are writing to you in our capacity as genuine journalists who have been exercising their trade for several decades in a country torn by war over 20 years, who, therefore, have been witnessing innumerable scenes of horrific slaughter and devastation which are daily occurrences in the martyred land of their ancestors.

As genuine journalists, we feel duty bound to write on the truth which we come to know through our daily, hourly contacts with life—better than people doing other trades.

As genuine journalists, we cannot content ourselves with recording what we see or hear as a camera or recorder does; we also have to give voice to the deepest aspirations of the people of Viet Nam, of South of Viet Nam, — a people credited with so many lofty self-sacrifices accompanied by so many sufferings due to an utterly atrocious war.

... We do hope that if we are not in a position to give a hundred percent faithful reflection of all the sorrows and sufferings befalling our fellow-countrymen, and a hundred percent loyal echo of their peace desire, at least we are able to a certain extent to sum up the most sacred fundamental aspirations for peace, independence and self-determination of the majority, of that "silent great majority," whose dreams of peace are the greatest since they are a voiceless majority, racked by the most excruciating agonies in this southern part of Viet Nam, our land.

Perhaps you are one of those who show the least patience in listening to our talking "peace," because you are for war, for a US military victory over this tiny country.

Allow us first of all to express our surprise on learning that you are going to demonstrate for a military victory of the mighty United States over the land of our small, beloved South Viet Nam.

...We are all the more surprised as you are going to take such an action only now, that is after 16 years of US direct involvement (1954-1970) and, prior to that, more than 10 years of US indirect intervention (1946-1954 — in the war between Viet Nam and France).

In the more than 20 years of direct and indirect involvement in Viet Nam, what has America done, what is she doing, what have you been doing, and where have you been? Why have you waited more than 20 gruelling years before pressing for a military decision in US favour at this belated hour?

Is it true that you have been sleeping, and hearing and seeing all these 20 years nothing of what has been happening in this land of Viet Nam from where America has never been absent?

We are most surprised on learning that you, a pastor, a churchman, a missionary, has chosen this hour to organize a mass demonstration and to trumpet for a "military victory in South Viet Nam!"

... Before his advent to the presidency, Mr Nixon had once urged that the US command en masse its troops equipped with atomic bombs to achieve a military victory in Viet Nam at the side of the French then locked with the Vietnamese in a life-and-death battle at Dien Bien Phu.

The United States has been involved in Viet Nam throughout the last 20 years. It took part first in a French war and supplied France with a huge quantity of war material. Then, it became a belligerent in another war in which it made use of all up-to-date weapons, short of the atomic bomb. Why on earth in the last 20 years didn't you seek a purely military victory for the United States?

Since it took a direct part in the Viet Nam war, the United States has used hundreds of millions of tons of bombs, suffered nearly 50,000 dead and nearly 300,000 wounded and spent 350 billion dollars on the war since 1961. Why in this period of time, didn't you try to gain a military victory?

As regards the Vietnamese on both sides, they have lost, during those years, millions of people killed, not including millions of others wounded or maimed for life.

Dear Mr McIntyre,

As a missionary, and one with a wide field of action at that, appearing everyday on the US radio and television programs, you should know better than anyone else that, with the money squandered on the war in Viet Nam, or more accurately in South Viet Nam, a lot of things could have been done for your people back in the United States, in social security, public health and education, all that any genuine churchman has deeply at heart.

... It is the Americans who have contributed a major part to the killing of half a million so-called "Vietnamese Communists", the arrest of hundreds of thousands of other "Communists" and "Communist suspects" who are now filling all the jails in South Viet Nam, and the destruction of hundreds of thousands of dwelling houses and other structures in the Communist-controlled areas.

Now, what is, in your opinion, the aim of the Americans who have spent so much money, killed and detained so many communists and used so many tons of bombs and shells? After 10 years of aid given to the French and 10 years of direct participation in a war in which half a million GIs have been deployed, why should now a military victory be claimed in this war-torn and ruined South Viet Nam?

If after so many deaths, so much money squandered and so much havoc wrought, a military victory is still not in sight, now you are talking of securing a military victory at all costs, then to what height the casualty figures of both sides, your own war expenditures, the bomb tonnage you intend to use and the devastation you will have to wreak on our narrow territory should soar up? What will your further plans be after 20 years of war in the southern part of Viet Nam, our country?

But fortunately enough, you are not the whole American nation. The deeds of the Reverend McIntyre, of the US fire-eaters, of those who even now are still dreaming of a military victory are not the deeds of the bulk of the American nation.

... We believe that you a pastor and a missionary you belong only to a minority in the United States.

But we are still anxious because although you represent only a minority in comparison with the majority of the American nation, you wield a considerable influence which sways the US administration and politics as well.

And we do know that those who were courageous enough to accept a confrontation with you and try to escape from your control have succumbed one after another.

J.F. Kennedy, the late 35th US president, Martin Luther King, the leader of the US civil rights movement, Robert Kennedy, the late US senator, etc. have supplied the world with ample proofs of your power in the United States where democracy is often supplanted by jungle law whenever you like!

Dear Mr McIntyre,

'Wasn't Mr McNamara too an advocate of a military victory in Viet Nam?

We challenge you to name any US general sent too Viet Nam without a plan for a military victory in his mind, it being understood that the blue-print has been either drafted in the United States and brought to Viet Nam, or elaborated in Viet Nam and referred back to the United States.

No one can be promoted in the Pentagon just for pleasure's sake, and no general was assigned to Viet Nam just for his.. own enjoyment!

Is it true that since the Americans have been unable to secure a military victory after 10 years of sacrifices, you now have to come forward and ask for it?

If that is true, we are afraid that you've come a bit too late with a cause completely outdated.

... Wouldn't you like to go back to the starting point of 20 years ago, or to have the United States send to South Viet Nam a million-strong army for a renewed military adventure on a land already soaked with bombs and shells?

If you really so desire, we would think you are

Those who cannot to be silent

Demonstration against the US aggressive war in Viet Nam in the Wall Street

E 11th HOUR*

nurturing a wild dream, which means you are thinking of something absolutely unreal!

The hard fact is that the South Vietnamese people, and the American people as well, and also the world peoples, will not tolerate any more large-scale war on this devastated land.

... At a time when armed forces, be they the mightiest, can achieve nothing without the support of the political, diplomatic, cultural, economic and social fronts, you a pastor, want the United States to secure a military victory, which ambition is beyond our understanding, and we wonder what doctrine has imparted to you this notion!

Nor can we understand why in your daily sermons over the US radio and TV networks you teach your warlike followers to wipe out the enemy and seek a military victory to your liking.

Nor do we understand what doctrine has motivated you to instil into the American people the belief that to live they must wipe out another people.

Fortunately enough, you are not the only representative of your church!

"...Those who scheme frenzied deeds completely alien to the spirit of our time and the upward trend of mankind in the hope of saving their waning glory — those are often called militants of the 11th hour.

We can sum up as follows what we have written in the previous pages of this letter for you to grasp our meaning:

— Your claim for a military victory clashes with the aspirations to peace of the Vietnamese, American and world peoples and with the most recent developments of the world situation, especially after 61 countries of the Lusaka Conference have urged an end to this war to leave the Vietnamese people free to settle—themselves their own affairs.

— Moreover, what you are seeking has been tried by so many people, from General Taylor to General Westmoreland and a whole batch of other generals, with, as a result, the present peace Conference in Paris and the gradual, unilateral withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam under the so-called Vietnamization program.

We fully realize that there exists quite big a chasm between what you desire and what you are able to achieve although you are a man of weight in the United States.

... The history of Viet Nam has shown that no force is capable of subduing our national pride, that no manœuvre, be it the craftiest, can work against a whole nation-which, despite its small size, is ready to tide over all difficulties — a valiant nation which has defeated the most formidable armies in this world. As a matter of fact, our ancestors and others routed the invincible army of the Mongols half a million-strong then the army of France ranked as a first-class power; and we are ready to follow in the steps of our forefathers and defend what remains on this grieved, but heroic land in order to secure a future of glory for our nation. This future is one of peace, independence, democracy with no interference from outside, wherever it may come from...

*The title of this article is ours — Ed.

Relief for flood victims in Central Trung Bo

FACING the current big flood in northern provinces of South Viet Nam, the Representation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government in the central part of Central Viet Nam on October 29 held an extraordinary session to take urgent steps to help the flood victims.

The PRG Representation instructed the revolutionary power at all levels, the people's liberation armed forces and various branches to concentrate their efforts on relief work considering this as a most urgent task.

It urged them to bring into full play the tradition of mutual assistance among the people in order to help the victims restore their normal life, repair the destroyed houses, restore production and grow short-term vegetables and subsidiary crops to make up for the lost crops.

It called on the local people to keep high vigilance over the wicked schemes of the enemy who, as in the previous floods, would make use of this difficult time to concentrate people, draft the youth into the puppet army, and plunder the population.

The PRG Representation has sent a number of cadres to different localities to help organize relief work.

"Campaign for the People" — A campaign of terror
81,000 arrests in over 40 days

UNDER the euphemistic label of "Campaign for the People" the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique are carrying out day and night arrests, detaining up to 81,000 people charged with violations of "security and order" and "morality," and with propagating "social evils"...

In truth, this is but a campaign directed against patriots and all those who favour peace, freedom, democracy, better living conditions and withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam. With this move, the Saigon puppet administration are stepping up the impressing of youths. They claim to uphold "good morality" by forbidding people to sleep outdoors, to go begging while tens of thousands of persons are made jobless, while the ordinary people in Saigon have not room to swing a cat in, while tens of thousands of homeless puppet wounded servicemen are roaming about in the streets! They say they want to eliminate social evils while US pornographic books and films are flooding South Viet Nam towns, while the real authors of these evils are ruling in South Viet Nam.

No wonder that this "Campaign for the People" is revolting the Saigon people. A Saigon political analyst has just resigned his post as dean of the Faculty of Letters in protest against the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique: "One cannot remain passive in front of this state of things," he said. "All men of conscience are indignant at what the Thieu regime has done. Its violence spells out its internal decay."

This statement is clear evidence that the "Campaign for the People" of the Saigon puppet administration not only fails to subjugate the townsfolk but on the contrary fans up the current urban unrest.

US - Saigon authorities must end brutalities in Poulo Condor

ON October 15, 1970, thousands of political detainees in Poulo Condor revolted. The rebellion was savagely put down by security and police forces and troops armed with tanks and big guns. 25 men were killed, 200 wounded, 6,000 surrounded and starved.

It is well-known that "advised" by a network of American specialists, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique has been enforcing an atrocious regime in prisons all over South Viet Nam. In Poulo Condor with 12,000 inmates, mediaeval tortures like "tiger cages" which have roused universal indignation have been used against prisoners.

There had been on the Devil's Island many prisoners' mutinies bloodily crushed. But the latest one was most savagely dealt with.

US-Saigon policy towards political detainees has always been one of terror and repression. In April 1970, 6 prisoners were shot dead and many other wounded by their jailers at Phu Quoc. On August 31, atrocities continued there: many inmates were killed or taken to an unknown destination.

Terror has been uninterruptedly resorted to in Chi Hoa prison since the beginning of 1970. On August 19 alone, 12 prisoners were beaten to death on the spot, many secretly liquidated, hundreds of others, among them many teen agers, wounded.

In late August 1970, Thu Duc prison inmates most of them women were put to horrible torture, many were killed or removed.

Such atrocities have been endangering the lives of tens of thousands of political prisoners at Poulo Condor and in other South Viet Nam jails. They are aimed at liquidating patriots, and consequently at stemming the rising revolutionary movement.

The South Vietnamese people strongly condemn the Oct. 15 Poulo Condor crack-down and all other similar horrors against prisoners in South Viet Nam. They demand that the US-Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique put an immediate end to such deeds in Poulo Condor in particular and their barbarous penitentiary régime in South Viet Nam in general.

Nixon's stubborn aggressive position...

(Continued from page 1)

TRYING to give substance to this fallacy, the White House and the Pentagon have doctored the US casualty toll, fabricated successes of the Saigon army and the "pacification" program, even gone to the length of asserting that their opponent's strength has been on the wane.

Reality on the field, however, does not tally with US psywar.

Unable to assume successfully the main role in the war, the American aggressors have fallen back to a strategic defensive posture, pushed puppet troops forward as a shield, ordered their own men to avoid the PLAF, made a maximal use of their artillery and air force, and forced their native hirelings to plant Saigon flags in allegedly "pacified" rural areas.

In a people's war there exist no clear-cut front and rear areas, and the target of devastating strikes is the aggressor and his agents wherever they are. How can the Americans dodge the fighting? The people of South Viet Nam and their armed forces have at their command suitable combat methods for all circumstances and situations. The PLAF murderous attacks and their enemy in northern Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Tay Ninh, Phuoc Long, Ba Ria, Long Khanh, etc., follows which put 70,000 US and satellite troops out of action in the first six months of this year were proof enough. If during this period the Americans used their air force in an unprecedented degree of concentration and fierceness, the losses in planes they suffered also reached a level unkown so far in the Viet Nam war: 4,200 shot down or wrecked on the ground as against 6,000 for the whole of 1968.

As to the puppet army, whose morale is by nature weak, organizational shaky technique indiffrent, and fighting capabilities mediocre, it has now to replace American troops in combat duty and wield modern and cumbersome war means. No wonder that they prove unable to master the sting expected from them by the Americans and are rapidly heading for total defeat. 160,000 men put out of action in the first half of the current year must be food for thought for the White House and Pentagon.

Concerning the "pacification program" who still doubts its failure? Designed to "win the minds and hearts" of the peasants, it takes on untold brutality with coercion if every form, military sweeps, mass arrests, press-ganging, forced resettlement assassinations. Hards facts in the past several months, particularly the dismantling by the population of growing numbers of "strategic hamlets," have spelled out clearly enough the gloomy fate of this "state policy."

Meanwhile, abroad popular feeling is growing more critical of US aggression and the US president's peace hoax, at home, en masse Americans are demonstrating in the streets for an end to the war, for the repatriation of US troops. Nixon's dictatorial and fascist behaviour in tackling his country's problems came under strong fire in the electoral campaign. In South Viet Nam, drives against American aggression and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta have been gathering into violent storms.

All those realities bear out the fiasco of the US imperialist invaders in every respect in Viet Nam, in the United States itself and in the world.

They all lead to the conclusion that should the Nixon administration drag out the war with the "Vietnamization" program and cling to the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, instead of taking into serious consideration the fair and reasonable proposal of the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government, they would inevitably incur greater and more lamentable failure in their shameful aggression against South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos.

In October 1970

"SPECIAL PACIFICATION" PROGRAM BADLY BATTERED

DESPITE enemy fierce attacks on the liberated areas, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people last October overcame all difficulties and hardships to step up their fight and dealt heavy blows on the enemy "special pacification" program. They intensified their actions in the three strategic zones (mountainous, rural and urban), broke many hundreds of pillage's operations, assailed hundreds of bases and intercepted numerous road and water-way convoys.

In the first days of October, the PLAF in *Ca Mau, An Giang, Rach Gia and Can Tho provinces* inflicted heavy losses on many puppet main-force battalions in U Minh jungle and the areas of Nui Dai, Ba Chuc, Nui Cam, Mo So and Cai Cao. The PLAF in *Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces* repeatedly assaulted the puppet troops in Loc Bai and on October 7 forced all the puppet troops to withdraw completely from this area. Thus, after 60 days and nights of relentless fighting, the liberation forces totally defeated all the 4 battalions of the 1st Regiment of the puppet 1st Division, put out of action more than 1,800 puppet troops, shot down or destroyed on the ground 71 aircraft and destroyed 14 heavy howitzers and a large number of war means.

In the *plain of Central Trung Bo* (Central Viet Nam), the *High Plateaus* and *Nam Bo (Mekong Delta)*, the PLAF intercepted enemy "pacification" operations in "key areas" such as Que Son, Dien Ban, Thang Binh (Quang Nam province), Binh Son and Son Tinh (Quang Ngai province), Phu My (Binh Dinh province), Cai Lay (My Tho province), Giong Trom and Mo Cay (Ben Tre province) and on the Ba Dinh and Thoi Binh rivers in Rach Gia and Ca Mau provinces, causing heavy losses to the enemy. In the first twelve days of October, the PLAF in Quang Da killed more than 880 adverse troops. Guerrillas and regional forces in Ca Mau put out of combat more than 200 members of the 32nd and 33rd Regiment of the puppet 21st Division.

Even in *the vicinity of Saigon*, considered the "most secure" areas, liberation fighters in Duc Hoa, Duc Hue, Ben Thu, Chau Thanh and Tan Binh districts repeatedly foiled "pacification" sweeps by civil guards. Only in the ten days ending October 5, the PLAF in these areas wiped out more than 200 enemy. Supported by guerrillas, the people in Duc Hoa district punished many cruel agents and disbanded 600 "popular defence" members.

Along with their actions on the enemy defence lines and on "pacification" sweeps, the liberation armed forces also slammed big gun fire on US-puppet staging areas and logistic bases. The HQ of the US 101st Paratroop Division in Phu Bai (Thua Thien province), the US 1st Marine Division in Sung May (Quang Da province), the US 4th Infantry Division in An Khe (Gia Lai province) and the HQ of the puppet 51st Regiment, in An Hoa (Quang Da), the 32nd and 33rd Regiments of the puppet 21st Division in Ca Mau took heavy casualties.

A string of military bases, airfields, military training centres, vehicle parks, logistic depots in Da Nang, Da Lat cities and Quy Nhon, Phan Rang, Pleiku, Kontum, Ban Me Thuot, Xuan Loc, Tra Vinh and Bac Lieu provincial capitals, in the military ports in Da Nang, Cam Ranh and Vung Tau ceaselessly came under PLAF devastating fire.

In Da Nang alone, from October 3 to 5, the liberation fighters waylaid enemy units in the streets, putting out of action 74 US and puppet officers and cruel policemen and 4 military vehicles.

The PLAF mounted many surprise raids on the military subsectors in Thuong Duc and Duc Hien (Quang Da province), Nuoc Man, Son Tinh (Quang Ngai province), Cung Son, Song Cau (Phu Yen province), Ninh Hoa, Van Ninh and Dien Khanh (Khanh Hoa province), Vinh Thuan, Go Quao (Rach Gia province), Thanh Tri (Soc Trang province) and Rach Rang (Ca Mau province).

At the *Go Quao military sub-sector*, the PLAF wiped out on the night of October 9 150 enemy troops including an artillery company.

Last month they *pushed up their operations against enemy communication lines*, knocking out a large number of enemy troops and destroying a large quantity of war means.

On the railways from Hue to Da Nang, from Cam Ranh to Van Gia, on the roads such as Highways 19, 1, 3, 4, 14 and provincial roads, the liberation fighters destroyed or damaged many military convoys and trains.

On waterways, the vessel-hunting teams sank or set ablaze dozens of military vessels.

In particular, during the first days of October, the PLAF in *Ca Mau province* completely destroyed 2 fluvial convoys on the Nam Can river: 13 small boats sank and 150 GI casualties, in 6 days, from 3 to 8 October, those in *Ben Tre province* sank 4 of ones on the Co Chien, wiping out 150 enemy troops. These remarkable feats of efficiency contributed to further frustrating the "river flottila" tactics of the enemy, and other telling blows at the "special pacification" program as well as the whole "Vietnamization" program of the US aggressors in Mekong Delta.

Those repeated setbacks exasperated the anti-war feeling. Desertions en masse in the puppet army were admitted by puppet general Do Cao Tri, several cases of rebellion and insubordination reported. Among the GIs, the anti-war movement also developed. According to an *AFP* dispatch on October 22, "60 per cent of effective forces of one US brigade was against the war."

Saigon under US-puppet rule

WORKERS' STRIKE

By October 21, nearly 15,000 workers of 18 building yards belonging to the US-owned RMK company were still out, for a 10 to 30% wage-lift as provided for by a contract with the employers. By the 26th, when the number of strikers upped to 18,000, all activities had been paralysed and 30 RMK sites in Saigon, Bien Hoa, Gia Dinh, Phuoc Tuy and Vung Tau had to close down.

At present, the workers are demanding a 55% increase to catch up with rising prices resulting from the recent devaluation of the Saigon piastre.

In a meeting, representatives of 124 trades-union, members of the Saigon Confederation of Labor, decided to back the RMK workers' claim.

STUDENTS' OPPOSITION

On October 11, along with teachers, lawyers and Catholic priests, 500 students in Saigon and Hue attended an evening called "Patriotism in Poems and Songs" organized by the Movement for Academic Autonomy. In spite of difficulties caused by the ruling Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta — power cut, police cordon reinforced by military vehicles and barbed wire entanglements — the performance unfolded in an ebullient atmosphere with patriotic songs against American aggression. The songs "Comradeship" and "Pulling Guns Uphill" by a professor of music deeply impressed the audience.

On October 12, a large number of students of the National Agricultural College attacked the fence erected by the police around the establishment — one of the Saigon students' opposition centre — and pressed for its removal. In face of their resolve, the police yielded.

The following day, Ha Dinh Nguyen, Chairman of the Students and Pupils' Committee of Action met with the press and denounced the Thieu-Ky-Khiem brutalities. "It is time for our fellow-countrymen," Nguyen said, "to disown this administration as it continually seeks to repress students and pupils, and to undermine their activities."

On October 14, Nguyen Van Thang, former Secretary-General of the Saigon Students' Association revealed the Education Ministry's intrigues to bring him before its disciplinary council on October 31. Thang pointed out that the puppet administration was "bringing political pressure to bear as retaliation upon a number of students who had in the recent past taken part in the struggle against it, and at the same time as intimidation against militant ones among them."

NIXON'S FIVE-POINT "PEACE PLAN" AND THIEU'S BACKING FOR IT LAID BARE

Together with various segments of the population in the US-occupied zone, the students have bared the trickiness of Nixon's five-point "peace plan" and Thieu's support for it. On October 22, students' associations in Saigon, Van Hanh, Hue and Can Tho made public a joint declaration rejecting Washington's "ceasefire in place" and Thieu's agreement to it. The declaration emphasized that the solution proposed by the US President was "vague and unpractical as American troops will continue to occupy the South Vietnamese territory, which will lead to the permanent maintenance of their illegal presence in South Viet Nam."

On October 28, seven soldiers of the Saigon army, among whom the Vice-Chairman of the Invalids' Association, wrote in their own blood three letters to Nguyen Van Thieu demanding that he immediately stop the shelling down of their dwellings and set free all wounded soldiers illegally arrested and detained by his administration. They also warned that unless their request was complied with, each of them would cut off one of his fingers everyday and send it to him.

THE INTELLIGENTSIA'S VOICE

"The People's Front to Fight for Peace" called a meeting of 500 intellectuals in Gia Dinh, including lawyers, engineers, professors and teachers. A declaration was issued against "the presence of American troops [which] has caused many sufferings to the people of South Viet Nam." It urged that "American troops must withdraw rapidly since an accelerated withdrawal is the main condition for the restoration of peace."

A NEW FRONT

The newly-founded "People's Front to Secure Peace in Viet Nam" has just appeared before the public in Saigon. All those present at the gathering advocated the pull-out of American and satellite troops from South Viet Nam to let the South Vietnamese settle themselves their own affairs.

New life at Phum (1) Tho Muong

FROM the "sala," (2) drumbeats resounded throughout Phum Tho Muong calling people to a meeting. One remembers that the same drumbeats had been heard on one night at the end of March 1970 urging the inhabitants, old and young, male and female, to take up sticks, and knives and together with their the neighbours, pour onto the roads to demonstrate against the coup d'état engineered by the Lon-Lol - Sirik Matak clique; from that night the Phum Tho Muong people have experienced dramatic changes.

The peace which existed for a dozen years or so was shattered and the flame of the war kindled by the renegades Lon Nol and Sirik Matak spread to Phum Tho Muong. American armoured cars trampled on its ricefields and gardens. The three hundred people living in over one hundred huts then had not a single quiet night. No more noise of pestles pounding rice, no more ringing laughter of boys and girls playing "ban co" (a traditional game) or dancing the graceful "lam thon" in the yard of the pagoda in the bright moonlight. In those months Lon Nol's soldiers trod on all the lanes of the village and committed foul acts in the yard of the pagoda and in the "sala" on stilts. At Chupp Lon Nol's younger brother showed his cloven hoof by man-handling innocent people. It was time to stay his bloody hands.

On the night of March 27, 1970, from the "sala," drums heralded a revolutionary storm at Phum Tho Muong. On hearing them, hundreds of villagers were swarming out of their houses, armed with jungle knives and together with people from the sroks (3) of Che He, Sung, Chupp went after a wicked thug in the locality. After a long demonstration many of them marched on Phnom Penh in motor-cars.

In that action, many of the Tho Muong villagers shed their blood, but their sufferings were soon turned into a deep hatred and new strength to grasp power.

From then on, Phum Tho Muong has been headed by the President of the rural National United Front appointed by the villagers themselves. A new life has begun and the inhabitants are over head and ears in work: they are seeing to the organization of the defence the village, the protection of the people and production and cultural and educational activities...

At the "sala," the drums continued to beat long after sunset, summoning people to a gathering. The young girls were the first to come in their colourful sarong (4). In the same "sala," two months earlier a big meeting was held to recruit youths of Phum Tho Muong for the armed forces of the National United Front. One could see strongly-built lads leaving their farming work and family affairs to bear arms. The Tho Muong villagers frequently repeat the words "people's war" as if to call to mind the duty they have to perform. They do not forget the halcyon days of yore but are conscious that they must take up arms to defend their new life, considering themselves to be the proud offsprings of king Jawarman the Seventh, builder of the marvellous Angkor temples.

While the youths are fighting at the front, those who remain in the rear do farming work to feed them. The laughter in the "ban co" game and the music of the "Lam Thon" dance now mingle with the pounding of rice to be sent to the front. Formerly in the moonlit nights, the young girls used to have heart-to-heart chats while winnowing rice, nowadays they also talk of politics, military operations, the people's armed forces and the battles won. To the questions where are their folks, they proudly reply: "At the front." That word is now dear to their hearts, and they also wish to go there. But a lot of work retain them in the rear. Miss Sary has become a nurse and is busily attending to the health of the villagers. Another lass formerly studying at Kompong Cham town, is now secretary to the President of the National United Front in the village. Miss Vani previously a farm hand, is now a guerilla. They have changed a great deal and only now has their life a real meaning. The old people are more sedate. In the past they worked from dawn to dusk but enjoyed very little of the fruits of their labour. Today, under the new regime, it seems that the dark clouds hanging over their life have been dispersed. They can quietly sit and watch their daughters and grand-daughters pounding rice while thinking of their sons and grand-sons in the fireline: Sui, who once was slapped by the local tyrant Mephum and received no pay, because some of the rice he was carrying was spilt on the ground — has killed about ten enemy troops on the northeast battle-front.

The "sala" was thronged with people. It serves as meeting hall and information hall as well. The President of the Front sat in the middle. The debate was about the determination of the inhabitants to cling to the village and the fields and to dispel the anxiety caused by the rumors that two days before an enemy plane had dropped bombs on the ricefields of a village nearby. The President said: "In the rear, we must engage in production work to feed our boys in action." Then he suggested that underground trenches be dug near the fields as shelters for farmers. The discussions were so elevating that some people wanted to go up the line right away; others requested that rifles be issued to the villagers... The President said: "Farming our land is also a way of fighting the enemy. In the rear we can fight him with our guns as well as with our farm impiements." In the end, they agreed with him to remain in the village to produce and to fight.

The Tho Muong villagers have grown up through the fighting. A new life has begun with them.

CHANN LUON

(1) *Phum*: village.
(2) *Communal house on stilts.*
(3) *Srok*: district.
(4) *Sarong*: *shirt.*

Khmers' struggle...

(Continued from page 1)

The American imperialists abhorred this line and left no stone unturned to undermine Cambodia's independence, sabotage the policy of peace and neutrality mapped out by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. The coup d'état staged on March 18, 1970 by the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique was the epitome of that hostile attitude of the US imperialists. These wanted to destroy the independence, peace and neutrality of Cambodia and turn that Kingdom into a US military base and colony in order to impose their domination on, and enslave, the Khmer people, contain and isolate the resistance of the South Vietnamese people, in order to stave off their doom in Indochina.

HOWEVER, facts completely upset their scheme of aggression. Cambodia, that "oasis of peace" has become an anti-US stronghold. With their inborn dauntlessness, the Khmer people, responding to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's call to fight the US aggressors and save the country, have put up a nation-wide, multiform and grim resistance against the US imperialists and brought their country to a new turning point.

The National United Front of Kampuchea has been founded with its well-known political program upholding the traditions of anti-imperialist struggle and a long-standing national culture; it continues and develops the wise line unswervingly pursued by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and holds aloft the banner of national solidarity and victory of the Khmer people to defend their independence and build Cambodia into a prosperous country.

In line with the declaration made on March 23, 1970 by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, a Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia was formed with Samdech Penn Nouth as its Prime Minister; this government which stems from the widespread patriotic movement launched by the Khmer people, relies on a power with various levels, on the monolithic solidarity of the National United Front of Kampuchea and on the patriotic armed forces; it is the only legal, genuine government in Cambodia enjoying full approval of the Khmer people and the sympathy and support of the world's peoples.

Over the past eight months of broad and close solidarity under the banner of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Royal Government, the Khmer people have been fighting valiantly against the aggressors and their lackeys; they have wiped out or routed a great number of Lon Nol troops and US and Saigon puppet soldiers and have liberated vast areas. According to still incomplete figures, from mid-March to mid-September 1970, they put out of action 110,000 enemy troops, seized or destroyed thousands of tanks, armoured cars, arms and ammunition, liberated two-thirds of the territory including the provinces of Kratie, Mondulkiri, Stung Treng, Preah Vihear, many townlets and district capitals and nearly 3 million people. The administration set up at all levels in various localities has been mobilizing the people for the fight against the US imperialists and for national salvation. The fighting spirit and militant solidarity of the brother Khmer people in the defence of their independence, peace and neutrality. Their effort has enlisted the sympathy and support of progressive people the world. A movement to back Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos against US aggression has been mounting powerfully in the world and in the US as well. Progressive people are urging that Nixon immediately end his aggressive war in Indochina, repatriate all US-troops and that the Indochinese peoples settle their own affairs without outside interference.

The brilliant successes of the brother Khmer people are due to their been patriotism and their unyielding struggle waged in accordance with the sensible political line of the National United Front and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. They are the triumph of the unshakable militant solidarity between the three Indochinese peoples and of the broad sympathy and support of progressive people in the world.

AS a faithful and close comrade-in-arms of the Khmer people, the South Vietnamese people warmly welcome the considerable accomplishments of the Khmer people and see in them a great encouragement and a precious support for their anti-US struggle for national salvation. They constantly bear in mind the support and assistance afforded by the Khmer people to their struggle and never forget that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk was, as early as the beginning of our resistance, expressed firm confidence in their final victory and, in the name of the Khmer nation, recognized the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation as the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people and recognized de jure the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. This valuable support and assistance has contributed to the South Vietnamese people's successful effort and to the Indochinese peoples' struggle for independence, freedom, peace and neutrality. Once again we express here our profound gratitude for it. On our part, we re-affirm that the unswerving position of our people, the NFL and the PRG of the SVNR is constantly to respect the independence, sovereignty, neutrality, unity and territorial integrity of brotherly Cambodia within her present borders, without interference in the internal affairs of one another. We staunchly support the 5 points put forth by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk on March 23, 1970, the National United Front and the National Union Government of Kampuchea, and the just cause of the Khmer people for independence, freedom, peace and neutrality. We pledge ourselves to constantly close our ranks with the Khmer people not only in the present effort against the US and for national salvation but also in the future national construction of each country along its particular line.

ON this glorious historical day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, we send our warm congratulations to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the great friend of our people, to the National United Front and the National Union Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, to the brother Cambodian people. We sincerely wish the brother Khmer people, led by the National United Front of Kampuchea and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, more splendid successes in their resistance to the US for national salvation. We are firmly convinced that the close neighbourhood, long-standing friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples of South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos will last for ever and be turned into a tremendous force capable of driving the US aggressors out of Indochina, in order to build up a peaceful life on our prosperous and beautiful peninsula.

Ebullient demonstrations for repatriation of US troops

WESTERN press agencies reported that on October 31 – three days before the US mid-term elections (Nov. 3) – the "Students' Mobilization Committee to End the Viet Nam War", the "US National Peace Action Coalition" and other anti-war organizations in the US had held demonstrations and meetings in scores of cities and towns for an immediate end to this nasty criminal war and repatriation of all American servicemen, and against Nixon's deceptive "peace initiative." Their attendance ran to tens of thousands.

In Washington, rallies were staged for hours in Lafayette Park, opposite the White House, with the participation of American ex-servicemen in uniforms wearing "War Veterans for Peace" badges; and displaying such slogans as "Peace Now," "Brings GIs Home," "Vote for Peace," "Down with the Party of Aggression and Repression" (Nixon's Republican Party).

The demonstrators adopted a resolution exposing Nixon's "peace initiative" as a move to hoodwink public opinion in the US. They urged that the US government immediately withdraw American troops from South Viet Nam and let the Vietnamese people shape their own destiny.

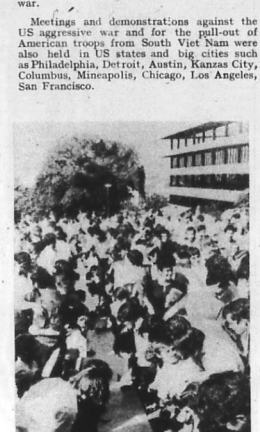
In New York, over 2,000 people including students marched in the streets and gathered in a park downtown part to strongly denounce the US war in Indochina.

At this meeting, Edward Gray, one of the leaders of the Automobile and Aircraft Workers' amalgamated T.U. speaking in the name of the "General Motors workers now out, declared that their strike was closely linked with the present key problem: whether science and technology should be harnessed to the building of a better life for the American people or be used for war purposes (in Viet Nam).

Also in New York, the "Students Mobilization Committee to End the Viet Nam War" called on New-Yorkers to stage street demonstrations to bring pressure to bear on the US government to withdraw immediately and unconditionally all US troops from Viet Nam.

In Chicago, 5,000 people paraded through the main thoroughfares against the Viet Nam war.

Meetings and demonstrations against the US aggressive war and for the pull-out of American troops from South Viet Nam were also held in US states and big cities such as Philadelphia, Detroit, Austin, Kanzas City, Columbus, Mineapolis, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco.



SVNR PEACE COMMITTEE DELEGATION VISITS INDIA

ACCORDING to a report from New Delhi on October 16, Professor Nguyen Van Hieu, Head of the SVNR Peace Committee delegation to the Conference of the Présidium of the World Peace Council in New Delhi called on Mr T.N. Kaul, Foreign Secretary of the Ministry for External Affairs.

Professor Nguyen Van Hieu made clear to Mr T.N. Kaul the 8-point peace initiative of the SVNR PRG made at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam on September 17 and laid bare the stubbornness and craftiness of US President Nixon's October 7 "five point proposals."

Mr T.N. Kaul praised the courageous struggle of the South Vietnamese people and said that the total withdrawal of the US troops from South Viet Nam would pave the way for a peaceful solution to the South Viet Nam problem.

On October 17 Professor Nguyen Van Hieu held a press conference to point out the failure of the "Vietnamization of the war" plan of the US imperialists in South Viet Nam and re-affirm the position and goodwill of the SVNR PRG.

On October 18, 1970 the delegation attended a big meeting in New Delhi in honour of the Conference of the World Peace Council. Many slogans were seen at the rally one of which read "The Indian people sternly condemn the US war of aggression in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia."

In his speech, professor Nguyen Van Hieu highlighted the friendship between the Indian and Vietnamese peoples.

He expressed warm thanks to the Indian people for their support to the Vietnamese Lao and Cambodian peoples' resistance against US aggression, for national salvation.

in brief ★ in brief

• Under the sponsorship of the "International Initiative of Solidarity with Viet Nam" in collaboration with 40 mass organizations and political parties of various tendencies, the "Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia" in West Germany has been inaugurated in Bonn.

• The "Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia" was observed from October 26 to November 1 in Pakistan by the "East Pakistan Peace Committee."

• It began on October 25 in Helsinki under the slogan: "For the 8-point peace of the South Viet Nam Republic" and with the participation of 19 mass organizations in the first coordinated action.

• It was kept in Oslo and Gjvik (Norway) from October 19 to 25, with many rallies and big exhibitions on Viet Nam.

• Prague: Speaking on October 22 at a meeting in honour of the visiting Party and State Delegation of the GDR, Gustav Husak, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Czecho-Slovak Communist Party and Walter Ulbricht, President of the GDR State Council expressed their full support to the struggle of the Indochinese peoples against US aggression.

• The Committee to Investigate US War Crimes in Indochina met in Stockholm from October 22 to 25, with the participation of the Committeemen and intellectual figures from America, Europe and Latin America. It concluded at its closing session: "The US imperialists have committed a genocidal crime, an international crime."

• New York: On October 20, the participants in the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church adopted a resolution demanding the complete withdrawal of US troops from Viet Nam before December 1971 and strongly condemning Washington's support to the Thieu-Ky-Khiem régime.

• Local organizations in Argentina are collecting money and medicines for Viet Nam. Santa Fe is launching a 100,000 signature-campaign for the withdrawal of US troops from Viet Nam.

• Huey Newton, Defence Secretary of the Black Panther Party, declared in a letter to the NFL and the PRG of the SVNR that his Party was ready to send volunteers to fight on the side of the Vietnamese people.

• R. Dix, one of the 6 GIs arrested for disobedience to officers' orders and refusing to go to Viet Nam stated before the Court of Washington that he had done what he believed to be right and that he was ready to bear the consequences of his act.

• At a press conference in Chicago, representatives of graduates from US military academies demanded that US troops be totally withdrawn from South Viet Nam.

• Ulf Sangvist, MP, Member of the Central Committee of the Social-Democrat Party of Finland and President of the Finnish Students' Union stated that the SDP of Finland would set up a fund of solidarity with Viet Nam and urged that the Finnish Government actively contribute to the settlement of the Viet Nam problem.

• People of all strata of the Czechoslovak people have so far sent over 3,000 protests against US aggression in Indochina to the Czechoslovak Peace Committee.

• "Tricontinental," organ of the Organization for Tricontinental Solidarity, published a special issue on Indochina (No 55/56).

• A West German peace organization (German Association for International Peace of the opponents to compulsory service) has sent an open letter to Nixon condemning the US aggressive war in Indochina. The letter recalled the Nixon has not kept his electoral commitment two years ago to put an end to the Viet Nam war and bring US expeditionary forces home.

Glory to Lenin's Land!

ON the 7th of November, 1917 the history of the world revolution turned over a new chapter and ushered in a new era, the era of the people's rule, with the Russian October Revolution.

This historic event has roused up thousands of millions of people and blazed the trail for the oppressed peoples in the world to rise up and fight for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress. The credit for it goes to the Soviet people and the CPSU headed by Vladimir Illych Lenin.

Since then, the Soviet people, braving untold difficulties and hardships, have recorded unparalleled achievements. Right after the seizure of power, they fought off the armed intervention of fourteen imperialist countries and the reactionary White Guards to defend the budding Soviet Republic. Unholding the tradition of the October Revolution, in World War II the heroic Soviet army and people not only routed the German fascist aggressors in the west but beat their Japanese allies in the East into surrender, thereby saving mankind from the fascist danger, and paving the way for the powerful upsurge of the world revolution and national liberation movement.

Apart from those feats, during the past 53 years, the Soviet people have been exerting tireless efforts which have been rewarded by great advances and achievements in the rehabilitation of their country devastated by two great wars, in economical and cultural development and in the consolidation of their national defence. Today the Soviet Union is the most powerful socialist country. She outranks many other nations in the world in engineering, coal mining, oil and iron extraction, coke production and manufacture of tubular steel. She was the first country in the world to launch a man-made satellite of the Earth and send simultaneously to orbit many manned stations. Recently it has accomplished a signal exploit in cosmic exploration by launching the "Lunar 16" automatic station which made a soft landing on the Moon and brought back to the earth samples of lunar rock.

The constant growth of the Soviet Union has greatly contributed to the strengthening of the socialist camp and the defence of world peace and has impelled the national liberation struggle of the oppressed peoples in the world. The South Vietnamese people warmly acclaim their Soviet brothers and sisters' wondrous gains.

In their confrontation with US imperialist aggression, the South Vietnamese have always received from the Soviet government and people a staunch support and full assistance. The Soviet Party and State leaders have many times come out strongly against the US imperialists' aggression in South Viet Nam, prolongation of their atrocious war there, and expansion of the latter to the whole of Indochina. N.V. Podgorny, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has said: "The flames of war have in fact spread all over the Indochinese peninsula. Together with progressive mankind, the Soviet people indignantly condemn US aggression and support the legitimate resistance of the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao peoples..."

With regard to the recent initiative of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam put forth by Minister Nguyen Thi Binh at the 84th session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, L.I. Brejnev, Secretary General of the CPSU has stated: "This new initiative supplies a good and equitable basis for an end to the war, the formation of a coalition government which will be representative of the will of the people and champion the interests of all democratic and progressive forces of South Viet Nam."

The joint communiqué released on the occasion of the October-November visit to the Soviet Union to attend the 53nd anniversary of the October Revolution of Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and Chairman of the Advisory Council of the PRG of the SVNR read: "While fighting against US aggression to liberate South Viet Nam, defend the North and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the country, the Vietnamese simultaneously discharge their internationalist duty and greatly contribute to the national liberation movement and the defence of world peace.

On its part, the Soviet Union once again fully supports the line of struggle of the South Viet Nam NFL and PRG of the SVNR against US aggression, to liberate the country, and regards the 10-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam NFL as a practical and reasonable basis for a fair settlement of the South Viet Nam-issue and as fully consistent with the fundamental national rights of the South Viet Nam people and the interests of world peace.

The Soviet Union urges that the US put an end to its war of aggression in South Viet Nam, withdraw totally and unconditionally its troops and those of its allies from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese settle their own affairs themselves without outside interference. The South Vietnamese people have the right to fight for the liberation of their country. This is a sacred and inviolable right of all peoples."

Solidarity with and support to Viet Nam has become a concern of the minds and hearts and part of the routine activities of all sections of the Soviet people. In addition to meetings, demonstrations, exhibitions, talks, collections in favour of Viet Nam, the "Soviet-Viet Nam Friendship" months and "Solidarity with the Vietnamese People Fighting US Aggression" weeks have been observed in many localities and participated in by millions of people. In September 1970 alone, there were in the Soviet Union 25,000 meetings and rallies of this kind.

The wholehearted support and assistance of the Soviet Communist Party, government and people have greatly inspired the South Viet Nam army and people now engaged in a grim fight to a finish against the US aggressors. Their substantial successes cannot be dissociated from the wide, valuable and effective support and assistance of the Soviet Union, the other socialist countries and friends all over the world.

On the 53rd anniversary of the great October Revolution the South Vietnamese people call to mind President Ho Chi Minh's teaching: "The more vividly they remember the shameful days of foreign domination, and the revolutionary path bristling with difficulties and hardships but also full of successes, the more deeply the Vietnamese working class and people are grateful for the great service rendered by Lenin and the October Revolution." * The South Vietnamese people send to the Soviet Party, government and people their heartfelt congratulations and gratitude; they wish the Soviet people greater successes, which will contribute to step up the fight against US-headed imperialism and neo-colonialism.

May the friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples of South Viet Nam and the Soviet Union last for ever!

** From an article written by President Ho Chi Minh for the Soviet paper Pravda on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution.*

All for the VietNam Front Line

ON a cool sunny autumn morning in Shanghai, we called at the "Y Ming" food mill.. From a distance we already heard cheers, drum-beats and gong-beats. We were greeted by the workers and the neighbouring people.

The comrades of the mill's revolutionary committee showed us its different workshops. Everywhere, we were able to see the workers' efficiency and hear the friendly words of comrades-in-arms.

They devoted every minute, even every second to production "One more biscuit is regarded as one more cartridge fired at the enemy." said Leou Ying Fang, a team leader. In their movement to support fighting Viet Nam, they had met with many difficulties: they had had to test their machines over 40 times, their polyethylene packer more than 100 times, and still were after other improvements.

Despite the obstacles, the workers had always fulfilled their duty for they were fired by revolutionary enthusiasm, progressive thinking and lofty internationalism, and their determination to associate themselves with the South Vietnamese people's revolutionary effort.

Recently, many operations had to be done by hand. Now the mill managed to devise and make machines to batter eggs, produce yeast, put in flour, mix egg-powder, press and pack biscuits. The productivity of powder-mixing machines increased by over 200 per cent, that of pressing machines left by the imperialists by 200 per cent, that of wrapping machines equalled 25 times that by hand...

We were very moved to learn that the workers took turns to eat or began their shifts earlier than cheduled not to waste time in stopping and starting on the machine. "One minute spared helped produce 30 more biscuits for the South Vietnamese fighters at the front line."

Many female workers had obtained high yields. A number of them got dizzy owing to long hours in the engine-room and were allowed to rest but they answered: "We have not done much as compared with the South Vietnamese fighters," and only took a short airing.

Many examples of dedication among the workers at the packing workshop earned great admiration from everyone. Said old worker Mao Yu Tsuen: "All my heart is with the South Vietnamese people in their war against US aggression." Though ill in the hospital he kept following the improvements being brought to the pressing machine.

All these tokens of the affection of the fraternal Chinese people have been a source of great encouragement for the South Vietnamese people and fighters.

During our visit in this vast China we noticed that here every deed like every word was a concrete expression of the directive of Chairman Mao, the great leader of the Chinese people: "The 700 million Chinese are a firm mainstay of the Vietnamese people, as immense China is a reliable rear of theirs."

Thank you, Chinese friends, for your fraternal support pervaded with lofty internationalism to the struggle of the South Vietnamese people for independence and freedom

PHAN HUU

Member of the Delegation of South Vietnamese Journalists visiting China in last October.

DOCTOR SALVADOR ALLENDE
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE

GREAT GAIN of the Chilean people

ACCORDING to foreign sources, in the last September 4 presidential elections Doctor Salvador Allende, President of the Socialist Party, candidate of the democratic and peace forces rallied in the "people's unity" bloc, polled more votes than any other candidate (36.30 per cent). As no candidate got the absolute majority of votes, on October 24 the Chilean National Assembly met to give its say. Doctor Salvador Allende was validated by 153 votes out of 195 as President of Chile as from November 4, 1970.

As early as December 17 last year, the "people's unity" bloc with the Communist and the Socialist Parties as its core, and of which Doctor Salvador Allende is the representative, already issued a programme provided that the people's power set up by the democratic and progressive forces would build an independent national economy and carry out democratic reforms in all fields, social, cultural, educational... In foreign affairs, this administration would establish diplomatic relations with all countries on the basis of respect for the right to self-determination of all nations, and of friendship and solidarity with the peoples now struggling for independence. This programme made clear stand of the people's government of Chile as one hostile to the US aggression in Viet Nam and actively sympathetic with the heroic resistance of the Vietnamese people.

The success of Doctor Salvador Allende in the last presidential elections constituted a great gain of the Chilean people and democratic forces in their persistent effort to achieve national and democratic rights, a common victory of the revolutionary movement in Latin America. It was at the same time a telling blow at the US imperialists and their reactionary stooges who plotted to put Chile under the sway of the US monopoly capitalists.

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SVNR PRG FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS UK

MME Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Head of the Delegation of the SVNR PRG at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, arrived in London on Oct. 28 on a visit to Great Britain at the invitation of the British Movement for Peace in Viet Nam.

She was welcomed at the airport by Hugh Jenkins, Labour MP, and representatives of many trades-union, women's organizations and other mass organizations.

Present also were ambassadors of socialist countries and Nguyen Van Sao, Hanoi weekly *Cuu Quoc* (National Salvation) correspondent in London.

In an on-the-scene press conference, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh recalled the peace initiative put forward on Sept. 17 last by the SVNR PRG at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. She roundly rejected Nixon's five-point proposal as a manoeuvre to placate public opinion in the United States and an expression of irresponsibility in the search for a fair solution to the South Vietnamese issue.

In the afternoon, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh called on Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. On that occasion, Mr Gromyko declared that Nixon's five-point proposal contained nothing new and only confirmed the aggressive position of the United States. He renewed the Soviet government's and people's total support to the just struggle of the Vietnamese people against US aggression and to the Sept. 17 peace initiative of the SVNR PRG.

In the evening, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh attended a meeting at the British Parliament staged by over 40 people including 20 MPs.

On Oct. 29, addressing 500 professors and students of Cambridge University, Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh dealt with the peace initiative of the SVNR PRG and condemned Nixon's prolongation and expansion of the US aggressive war in South Viet Nam.

On Oct. 30, the British people's Movement for Peace in Viet Nam gave a reception in honour of Mme Nguyen Thi Binh. Among the guests were the ambassadors and chargés d'affaires of socialist countries, representatives of British Trades-Union, MPs, professors, physicians, artists, writers and representatives of various mass organizations. A group of anti-Viet Nam war Americans and GIs were also present.

Addressing the gathering, Bill Jones, Ken Jill and Clive Henkino, members of a British Trade Union delegation back from a visit to Viet Nam, expressed their firm faith in the final victory of the long-drawn struggle of the Vietnamese people for peace, independence and re-unification.

John Kyan, President of the Movement, voiced his sincere thanks to Mme Nguyen Thi Binh and his admiration for the Vietnamese people's legitimate resistance and pledged to do his best to step up the movement of support to the Vietnamese people until total victory.

On the same day, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh was guest to a dinner offered by Ian Mikardo, a leader of the British Labour Party.

Nixon's new "initiative" rejected by lawyers

Editor's Note-We have just received from Brussels a flat rejection by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers of the Oct. 7, 1970 five-point proposal of the White House boss.

We give herebelow the five main parts of that document:

"I — On the first point, President Nixon declared he was 'prepared to withdraw all (US) forces' but only 'as part of a settlement based on the principles I spelled out previously and the proposals I am making tonight.' These principles include on the one hand 'mutual withdrawal' and on the other the repatriation of US troops by small parcels under the three following conditions:

— progress of 'Vietnamization.'
— level of enemy activities.
— progress of the Paris Conference.

The International Association of Democratic Lawyers sees that in fact the basic position of the US government has not changed and that the US government has not responded to the PRG concrete proposal on total withdrawal of GIs before June 30, 1971.

"2 — On the second essential point, President Nixon turns down Mme Binh's proposal on the formation of a government of very broad coalition to be entrusted with preparing truly free elections from which only Thieu, Ky and Khiem will be excluded, these three individuals, totally discredited in South Viet Nam as is shown by the present widespread movement there, continue nevertheless to enjoy an apparently limitless assistance under the 'Vietnamization' strategy.

The IADL holds that the US position remains at variance with the 1954 Geneva Agreements on the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination.

"3 — Speculating on the peace aspirations of the Vietnamese and American peoples, Mr Nixon moreover proposed an immediate and unconditional ceasefire.

As there is no commitment to withdraw rapidly and totally US troops, the IADL declares that such a ceasefire would legalize American presence in Viet Nam and prejudice the right to self-defence of the Vietnamese people who have been fighting for many years against the aggressors and making so many sacrifices. In his conclusions, the Head of the White House stated that 'all those nations involved in the fighting in Indochina, but one, announce their readiness to agree to a ceasefire.'

The IADL wishes to point out that Mr Nixon deliberately continued to ignore the South Viet Nam Provisional Revolutionary Government, the National Union Royal Government of Cambodia and the Lao Patriotic Front, which attitude gave his proposal an utterly unrealistic character.

"4 — Mr Nixon also set forth the idea of an international conference to deal with the whole of Indochina. 'This war in Indochina has been proved to be of one piece,' he said. Effectively there exists a common denomination to this war and that is US aggression of which all these countries are victims.

But the IADL is of the opinion that, in conformity with the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Agreements, it rests with the three countries — Viet Nam, Laos, Cambodia—to determine themselves their own fate, and consequently decide at present the form of the search for a settlement for each one of them. There already exists the Paris conference fully qualified to settle all political and military questions concerning Viet Nam, and contacts are taking place in Laos between the parties concerned with a view to a conference to be entrusted with finding a political solution.

"5 — The last point of Mr Nixon's offer concerns the immediate and unconditional liberation of all POWs and he let it be known that such a 'gesture' would help ascertain the adversary's good faith.

The IADL, first, infers that Mr Nixon's previous affirmation that he had no power on POWs detained in Saigon as result of his non-interference in the so-called Thieu government's affairs, is a sheer fiction.

It recalls that on October 12, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh once again confirmed to the press that discussion on the liberation of POWs as well as on ceasefire would start at once if the United States undertook to withdraw its forces before June 30,1971 and to stop imposing the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique of puppets on SVN.

The IADL unfortunately has to conclude that the US Government chief's proposals took no account of the Indochinese peoples' fundamental national rights and opened up no serious prospects for peace, and that their formulation by Mr Nixon undoubtedly aimed at deceiving US public opinion at a period so delicate for him."